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Application Number	10/645,834-Conf. #7644
Filing Date	August 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	Daniel Chiu
Art Unit	1744
Examiner Name	W. H. Beisner
Attorney Docket Number	58072(47137)

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Stephana E. Patton		
Date	October 23, 2006	Reg. No.	50,373



Docket No.: 58072(47137)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Daniel Chiu et al.

Application No.: 10/645,834

Confirmation No.: 7644

Filed: August 20, 2003

Art Unit: 1744

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OBTAINING
AND MAINTAINING HIGH-RESISTANCE
SEALS IN PATCH CLAMP RECORDINGS**

Examiner: W. H. Beisner

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 26, 2006 (Paper No. 1), applicant hereby provisionally elects claims for continued examination, with traverse.

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 26, 2006, Applicant hereby provisionally elects claims of Group I, Claims 1 – 30, 87 – 89, 93 – 95, 97, and 98 - 101, for continued examination, with traverse.

First, the subject matter of the groups relates to a single inventive concept for which a single patent should issue. The pending claims represent an intricate web of knowledge, continuity of effort, and consequences, which merit examination of all of these claims in a single application. More particularly, a single, searchable, unifying aspect links all of the claims. This single, searchable, unifying aspect relates to systems and methods allowing for an electrically resistant seal between a cell and a cell-contacting surface. Second, Applicants submit that a sufficient search and

examination with respect to the subject matter of all claims can be made without serious burden. As the M.P.E.P. states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. M.P.E.P. § 803 (8th ed., Rev. No. 2, May 2004).

That is, even if the above-enumerated groups of claims are drawn to distinct inventions, the Examiner must still examine the entire application on the merits because doing so will not result in a serious burden. This is especially true in light of the robust and extensive computerized search engines and databases at the Examiner's disposal. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn, and that each of claims 1- 108 presently pending in this application be examined.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, under Order No. 58072(47137).

Dated: October 23, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Stephana E. Patton

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Application No. (if known): 10/645,834

Attorney Docket No.: 58072(47137)

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